

My Literary Alphabet

Alphabet of Quotations

Collected by Laura McCutchen

A B C D E F G H

I J K L M N O P Q

R S T U V W X Y Z

CLICK ON A LETTER ABOVE TO SEE

THE SELECTED QUOTATION

Exit this presentation.

Abstain from all
appearance of evil.

BUILD THEE MORE stately mansions, O my soul,
As the swift seasons roll
Leave thy law-vaulted past
Let each new temple nobler than the last
Shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast
Tell thou at length art free
Leaving thine outgrown shell by life's unresting sea.

--The Chambered Nautilus

by Oliver Wendell Holmes

Cowards die many times

before their deaths;

The valiant never taste of death but once.

-Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare

Dost thou love life?

**Then do not squander time for that's
the stuff life's made of.**

–Benjamin Franklin



Every day is
the best day
of the year.

–Ralph Waldo Emerson

Full many a gem of purest ray serene
The dark unfathomed caves of ocean bear;
Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.

—*Elegy in a Country Churchyard* by Thomas Gray



He who from zone to zone

guides through the boundless sky their certain flight

In the long way that I must tread alone

Will lead my steps aright.

—To a Waterfowl by William Cullen Bryant



ILL FARES THE LAND,

to hastenings ills a prey,

Where wealth accumulates and men decay.

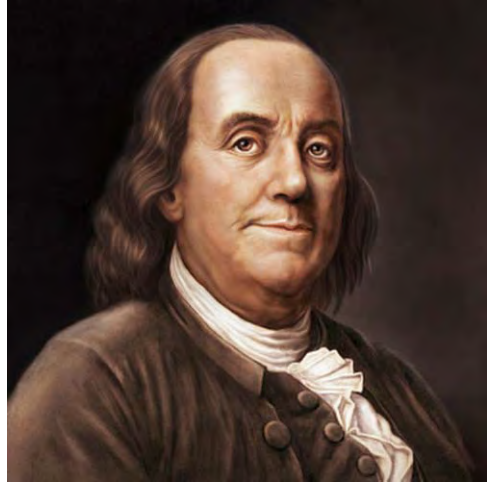
–The Deserted Village by Oliver Goldsmith



Judge not; the working of his brain

And of his heart thou canst not see.

—Adelaide A. Procter



Keep thy shop and
thy shop will keep thee.

–Benjamin Franklin

Let us then be up and doing

With a heart for any fate.

Still achieving, still pursuing,

Learn to labor and to wait.

Psalm of Life, Henry W. Longfellow



MORE THINGS ARE WROUGHT

By prayer than this world dreams of.

Idylls of the King by Alfred Lord Tennyson



Not what we give but what we share
for the gift without the giver is bare;
Who gives himself with his alms feeds three
Himself, his hungry neighbor and Me.

—*Vision of Sir Launfal* by James R. Lowell

Once to every man and nation comes
the moment to decide

In the strife of truth and with Falsehood for the good
or evil side.

–*The Present Crisis* by James R. Lowell
(Crisis in 1845, whether to admit Texas to the Union)

Peace, Peace! He is not dead, he doth not
sleep,

He hath awakened from the dream of life

Tis we, who lost in stormy visions, keep

With phantoms an unprofitable strife.

-Adonais, Percy B. Shelley's most famous poem

Abstain from all appearance of evil.

--I Thessalonians, The Bible

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Gray

God's in His heaven,
All's right with the world.

--*Pippa Passes* by Robert Browning

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Will lead my steps aright.

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The loud laugh that speaks the absent mind.

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And of his heart thou canst not see.

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--*Adonais* by Percy B. Shelley

Quakers or Friends

have always maintained that war and oaths were inconsistent with Christianity, being forbidden by Christ.

–Quaker Doctrine

REMEMBER that when you are right,
you can afford to keep your temper
and when you are wrong,
you can't afford to lose it.

–Plato

So live, that when thy summons comes to join

The innumerable caravan which moves
To that mysterious realm, where each shall take
His chamber in the silent halls of death
Thou go not like the quarry slave at night
Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust approach thy grave
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.

–Thanatopsis by ?

The man that has no music in
himself

Nor is not moved with the concord of sweet sounds,
Is fit for treason, stratagems and spoils;
The motions of his spirit are dull as night;
And his affections dark as Erebus:
Let no such man be trusted.

--*Merchant of Venice* by William Shakespeare

Use, do not abuse;
neither abstinence
nor excess renders man happy.

–Voltaire

Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,

**As to be hated, needs but to be seen;
Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face
We first endure, then pity, then embrace.**

–Alexander Pope

WHAT IN ME IS DARK,

Illumine; what is low, raise and support;

That to the height of this great argument

I may assert Eternal Providence

And justify the ways of God to men.

–*Paradise Lost* by John Milton

Xerxes, the great Persian said,

“If you always act under the influence of noble and generous impulses, you will never cease to be prosperous and happy.

YET ERE WE PART,

one lesson I can leave you,

For every day—be good—

Do noble things, not dream them all day long,
And so make life, death and that wast forever
One grand sweet song.

-Charles Kingsley

ZEAL DROPPED in charity is good;
without, is good for nothing.

-*Some Fruits of Solitude* by William Penn

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